



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE UPDATE

UPDATE ON SEWER MAIN REPAIR ACTIVITIES IN FORT LAUDERDALE

December 24, 10:30 a.m.

Following is an update on sewer main repair activities on a 48-inch line in the Himmarshee Canal in Beverly Heights and a 54-inch line on SE 10 Street along the north side of Virginia Young Park in Rio Vista. In addition, below are updates on ongoing cleanup and remediation efforts in the Hector Park area along Ponce de Leon Drive in Rio Vista.

Operations in the Himmarshee Canal

- Industrial divers continue underwater operations to repair a submerged 48-inch sewer main in the Himmarshee Canal in the vicinity of SE 2 Street and SE 9 Avenue.
- The leak is not impacting properties on land.
- Three aerators are operating at points along the Himmarshee Canal to help improve water quality.
- Neighbors are reminded that the Himmarshee Canal from S. Federal Highway to the New River remains under a precautionary advisory for recreational water-related activities. Swimming, fishing, jet-skiing, paddle-boarding, kayaking, canoeing, or engaging in any water-related activities within the precautionary advisory area should be avoided.
- To view a map of the precautionary advisory area, please visit <http://bit.ly/35l0DuC>.

Operations at Virginia Young Park

- During the overnight hours, the contractor continued to focus on stabilizing the pit around the break area to prevent spillage from entering the streets.
- Streets in the vicinity of Virginia Young Park are largely clear and dry with minimal localized ponding in some swale areas.
- Stormwater crews monitored storm drains, catch basins, and tidal valves during the overnight hours and reported no drainage or flooding issues.
- Crews from Cliff Berry, Inc. (CBI) will be on site today continuing to conduct cleaning and pressure washing activities in the affected area.
- Flows and pressure in the wastewater collection system are beginning to decrease following yesterday's heavy rainfall. Staff will continue to monitor the system for a point in time when flows and pressure reach levels that will enable crews to activate the bypass line.
- Virginia Young Park remains closed while repair activities are taking place.
- Neighbors are reminded that the area in and around Virginia Young Park is an active construction zone.
- For the safety of everyone, access to the construction zone is limited to appropriate operational and management personnel.

Environmental Activities

- Results from air quality tests taken by GHD Environmental in the affected area around Virginia Young Park and Hector Park did not detect the presence of any hazardous gases in the air related to the sewage spill.

-14 aerators will continue to operate 24/7 to help improve water quality in the Tarpon River, New River, and Himmarshee Canal.

-Boats will continue to patrol the canal system in and around Rio Vista and in the Himmarshee Canal conducting skimming and debris removal on the waterways.

Garbage and Recycling Collection for Ponce de Leon Dr. between SE 9 Ave. and SE 12 Way

-Garbage and recycling collection is taking place this morning for properties in the affected area on Ponce de Leon Drive between SE 9 Avenue and SE 12 Way.

-Neighbors in the affected area with questions about garbage or recycling collection may call the City's 24-Hour Neighbor Call Center at 954-828-8000.

Cleanup and Remediation of Ponce de Leon Drive/Hector Park Area

-CBI will continue cleaning and pressure washing activities today in the Ponce de Leon Drive and Hector Park areas.

-Stormwater crews will continue to inspect and monitor catch basins, tidal valves, and storm drains in the Hector Park area to ensure they are unobstructed and operating properly.

-Hector Park remains closed to the public.

-Equipment and materials will continue to be removed from areas in and around Hector Park as part of the cleanup and demobilization effort.

Road Closures

-Roads in the immediate vicinity of Virginia Young Park are closed including a portion of SE 10 Street east of SE 9 Avenue, as well as a portion of South Rio Vista Boulevard east of SE 9 Avenue.

-SE 9 Avenue is closed from south of the intersection at SE 8 Street to Ponce de Leon Drive.

-There is no access east of SE 9 Avenue at the intersections of SE 9 Street, SE 10 Street, South Rio Vista Boulevard, and the north side of Ponce de Leon Drive.

-Local access for residents of the area will be maintained where needed during the duration of the closure.

-To view a map of the road closures, please visit <http://bit.ly/34W91Q6>.

Safety Tips

-Neighbors in the affected area are reminded to avoid contact with any standing water.

-If contact is made, please remember to follow proper hygiene procedures. Wash your hands with soap and warm water or an alcohol-based hand sanitizer immediately after contact with wastewater, especially before preparing or eating food.

-Be sure to keep all children and pets away from any area affected by the wastewater spill.

-Keep a container or spray bottle outside residential entryways with a 90/10 solution (90% water to 10% household bleach) to clean shoes and other items that may have come into contact with wastewater.

-To view a safety tips flyer, please visit <http://bit.ly/2sUvr73>.

Precautionary Advisory for Water-Related Recreational Activities

-A precautionary advisory for recreational activities in local waterways remains in effect.

-The boundaries are Broward Boulevard to the north, Poinciana Drive to the east, SE 15 Street to the south, and SW 18 Avenue to the west. Water-related activities including swimming, fishing, jet-skiing, paddle-boarding, kayaking, and canoeing should be avoided within these boundaries.

-To view a map of the precautionary advisory for water-related recreational activities, please visit <http://bit.ly/35l0DuC>.

For More Information

Neighbors are encouraged to stay up to date by visiting the City's website at www.fortlauderdale.gov or following the City on social media at:

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/CityofFortLauderdale/>

Twitter - <https://twitter.com/FTLCityNews>

Nextdoor – <https://www.nextdoor.com>

Neighbors may also call the City's 24-hour Neighbor Call Center at 954-828-8000.